

Brasenose College Isolation Plan – Staff

From 11th January 2022

If a member of staff experiences a symptom of Covid-19 and/or has a positive LFD result, they must immediately return to their home and begin to isolate, inform their line manager and HR hr@bnc.ox.ac.uk

The three main symptoms of Covid-19 that mean you need to isolate and get tested are:

- A high temperature (feel hot to the touch on your chest or back – you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new continuous cough (this means coughing a lot for an hour or more, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours or if you usually have a cough it may be worse)
- A loss of change to your sense of taste or smell (you cannot smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to usual)

If a member of staff is symptomatic and/or has a positive LFD test they are advised to think about and contact anyone they may have come into close contact with from 2 days before symptoms developed or the date of the positive LFD result.

The member of staff is asked to advise possible close contacts to stay alert for possible symptoms.

1. A positive LFD test result does **not** require confirmation with a PCR test (*whether the individual is symptomatic or asymptomatic*), but should be treated as confirmation of infection and reported both to the University and to the NHS.
2. Any individual with symptoms but a negative LFD test result should self-isolate and repeat the LFD test in 24 hours; if still negative, they should book a PCR test.
3. Close contacts of positive cases should no longer book a precautionary PCR test through the EAS if they are exempt from self-isolation; but should take daily LFD tests for 7 days.
4. Unvaccinated close contacts of positive cases (who are legally required to self-isolate) are advised to take a PCR test 3-5 days after the date of last contact and to take daily LFD tests for 7 days.

Reporting of LFD results. As it is no longer necessary to obtain a confirmatory PCR test following a positive LFD test result, it is vital that individuals are encouraged to report their LFD results (positive, negative or void) via the EAS system (as well as to the NHS). This will ensure that appropriate notifications continue to be made to SPOCs.

Close contacts will be informed by NHS Track and Trace.

Exemptions from isolation. An individual who is notified that they have been a close contact is no longer required to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- They are fully vaccinated**
- They are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- They have taken part in or are currently part of an approved Covid-19 vaccine trial
- They are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

**Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with A UK MHRA-approved Covid-19 vaccine in the UK and at least 14 days have passed since the final dose was received.